

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re U.S. Patent Application of**

**HATA et al.**

**Application Number: To be Assigned**

**Filed: Concurrently Herewith**

**For: A SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND A METHOD OF  
MANUFACTURING THE SAME**

**ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. HITA.0543**

**Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Applicant has amended the claims by deleting claims 16-24. Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows: